

### REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment is presented to correct typographical errors in the claims. Claims 1-41 have been amended. No new matter is added. No claims have been added or cancelled. Hence, Claims 1-41 are pending in the application. Entry of the claim amendments herein is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is believed that such contact would further the examination of the present application.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any fee shortages or credit any overages Deposit Account No. 50-1302.

Respectfully submitted,

HICKMAN PALERMO TRUONG & BECKER LLP



Christopher J. Brokaw  
Reg. No. 45,620

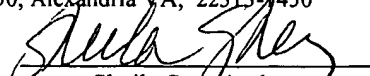
1600 Willow Street  
San Jose, CA 95125  
(408) 414-1080, ext. 207  
**Date: September 17, 2003**  
Facsimile: (408) 414-1076

#### CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria VA, 22313-1450

on September 17, 2003

by

  
Sheila Severinghaus